

LAUNCESTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the society shall be “**The Launceston Philatelic Society**”.
 - (a) The Society is a non-profit organisation. The assets and income of the Society shall be applied solely in furtherance of its objectives and purposes as set forth in clause 2 hereof, and no part of its assets or income shall be distributed directly or indirectly at any time to its members except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on its behalf.

2. “The objectives and purposes of the Society shall be, generally:
 - (a) the cultivation, study and advancement of all categories of philately, and to bring together collectors (including juniors) for this purpose: and
 - (b) to provide advice and assistance with regard to forming, presenting, valuing and disposing of collections, including the collections of deceased members.
And without limiting the generality of the above, but more particularly to:
 - (c) be a registered member of the Tasmanian Stamp Council or such other body as may replace it and be the governing body for philately in Tasmania from time to time, and to liaise with philatelic or other relevant authorities on such matters as the committee deems appropriate.
 - (d) conduct regular meetings for members and to arrange for the display of material for the benefit of members.
 - (e) conduct stamp exhibitions and encourage members to have their exhibits judged.
 - (f) provide for the mutual exchange of stamps through the circulation of exchange books, catalogue sales and stamp markets.
 - (g) maintain a library of philatelic reference books for the use of members.
 - (h) conduct, provide or be involved in such other activities as the committee from time to time sees fit, such activities being consistent with (a) and (b) above, and not inconsistent with clause 1A hereof.”

3. (1) The membership of the society shall be divided into **six** classes:
 - (a) Life members
 - (b) Senior city members
 - (c) Junior city members
 - (d) Senior country members
 - (e) Junior country members
 - (f) Associate Members

- (2)
 - (a) A life member is a member of the society to whom that class of membership has been granted by the committee provided that the committee shall not exercise that power so that at any one time there are more than eight life members of the society;
 - (b) A senior city member is a member aged 16 years or upwards residing within the Tasmanian post codes 7248, 7249 and 7250.
 - (c) A junior city member is a member under the age of 16 years residing within the Tasmanian post codes 7248, 7249 and 7250.
 - (d) A senior country member is a member aged 16 years or upwards residing elsewhere.
 - (e) A junior country member is a member under the age of 16 years residing elsewhere.
 - (f) An associate member is a person who is permitted to be a member of the Society for a single event or purpose, but such member has no rights to vote, use the library, or receive exchange books. The subscription for an associate member shall, unless subsequently altered by the committee, be \$2.00.

4. Subject to clause 6 hereof the membership of the society shall consist of:
 - (a) Those persons who were members of the society as at the adoption of this Constitution; and
 - (b) Those persons who are elected to membership as provided by clause 5 hereof.

5. (1) A person who is not a member of the society as at the adoption of this Constitution shall not be admitted to membership unless:
 - (a) He is nominated as provided in sub-clause (2) of this clause; and
 - (b) His admission as a member is approved by the society in general meeting.

(2) A nomination of a person for membership of the society:

 - (a) Shall be in writing in such form as the committee may determine signed by two members (who shall not be junior members) as a proposer and seconder;
 - (b) Shall be accompanied by the subscription payable in respect of the current year and the written consent of the person nominated; and
 - (c) Shall be lodged with the secretary.

6. A person shall cease to be a member of the society if :
 - (a) He resigns his membership by notice in writing to the secretary;
 - (b) He is expelled from the society pursuant to clause 17;
 - (c) Any subscription payable by him to the society remains unpaid for one year.

7. (1) The amount of annual subscription payable by members shall be determined by the committee from time to time.

(2) A life member of the society shall not be liable to pay any subscription.

(3) Subject to clause 3(2) hereof the committee may fix different rates of subscription for different classes of members.

(4) The rate of subscription payable by a member shall be the rate applicable to the relevant membership class.

(5) The annual subscriptions shall be due and payable on the 1st January each year.

(6) The Secretary shall in December send a notice of demand to each member advising the amount of subscription payable by that member on 1st January in the following year, for that next year.

(7) Notwithstanding (4) hereof, where a husband and wife, or adult couple, live together under the same roof and both are members, one subscription shall be halved.

8. The committee shall cause to be opened such banking accounts in the name of the Society as it deems appropriate to manage the affairs of the Society. The Treasurer, Exchange Branch Superintendent and the Sales Superintendent shall pay all monies received by them into the appropriate account as soon as possible after receipt. All payments out of any such account must be by withdrawal signed by any two of the officers of the Society who have been appointed by the committee for that purpose.

9. Once at least each financial year of the society, the accounts of the society shall be examined by the auditor, and he shall report thereon to the Annual General Meeting.

10. (1) The society shall in August of each year hold an Annual General Meeting, business of which shall be:-
 - (a) To confirm the minutes of the last preceding Annual General Meeting;
 - (b) To receive from the committee and auditor reports upon the transactions of the society during the last financial year;
 - (c) To elect the officers;
 - (d) To appoint the auditor; who shall not be a member of the Committee and
 - (e) To transact any other business of which 7 days notice shall be given to each member.

(2) Only financial members, other than junior and associate members shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

11.
 - (a) “The society shall hold a general meeting at least once in each calendar month, which shall where practicable be on the 3rd Saturday of each month.
 - (b) The society may hold additional general meetings on such other day or days as the Committee may from time to time determine.
 - (c) The secretary shall give notice to all members in December of each year of the meetings and displays or events proposed for the following year.”
12. Upon any question arising at a meeting of the society each member (other than junior and associate members) has one vote. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman of the meeting, who shall usually be the President, shall have a casting vote.
13.
 - (1) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by the committee.
 - (2) The committee shall consist of the officers of the society.
 - (3) The officers of the society shall be:
 - (a) A President;
 - (b) A Vice President;
 - (c) A Secretary;
 - (d) A Treasurer;
 - (e) An Exchange Superintendent;
 - (f) A Sales Superintendent;
 - (g) A Librarian.
 - (3A) Subject to the total number of officers of the society not being less than 5 and one member not holding more than 2 offices, in the event of there being no second nomination for the office of Treasurer, Exchange Superintendent, Sales Superintendent or Librarian, then the following positions may be combined:
The President, Vice President and Secretary may also be Exchange Superintendent, Sales Superintendent or Librarian;
The Secretary may also be Treasurer;
Exchange Superintendent, Sales Superintendent and Librarian may also be one other of those officers.
 - (4) It is the responsibility of the officers of the committee to tender a prior apology if they cannot attend a meeting.
 - (5) Any casual vacancy on the committee may be filled by the committee.
14. The following quorum provisions shall apply;
 - (a) At an annual general meeting - fifteen financial members,
 - (b) At a general meeting - ten financial members; and
 - (c) At committee meetings - four members of the committee.
15. The Exchange Superintendent may, with the consent of the committee, make rules as to the conduct of the exchange branch.
16. The committee may make rules in respect of any matter not herein provided for, provided that no such rule may be inconsistent with this Constitution.
17. The committee may expel a member, if in the opinion of the committee the member has been guilty of conduct detrimental to the interests of the society.
18. No dissolution of the society shall take place unless determined by a three fourths majority of financial members (other than junior and associate members) present at a special meeting called for the purpose of which one month’s notice has been given.

19. In the event of the society being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, shall be transferred by the Committee to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.
20. This Constitution may be altered, repealed, added to, or otherwise amended by a two thirds majority of members present (other than junior members) at a general meeting of the society provided that one month's notice has been given of the motion to amend.
21. Notice to a member shall be deemed to have been given if sent by ordinary mail or email to the address of that member as last known to the Secretary.
22. Privacy/Confidentiality
The Committee
 - (a) shall, subject to the following, keep members' addresses including email addresses confidential.
 - (b) Shall not, other than in Exchange Book circuit lists or as part of National or State Exhibitions, publish members' names, addresses, collecting interests or details of their collections or exhibits, without their prior consent. Members who request or receive Exchange Books, and/or enter exhibits in Exhibitions run by the society, shall be deemed to have given such consent.
23. The Committee shall have the power to investigate any complaint made to it by a member against another member arising out of an organised club activity, including offering for sale as genuine any item which is not, or damaged repaired or otherwise tampered with, without it being so described. The Committee may seek an expert opinion and/or make recommendations as to settlement of the dispute. If not settled between the parties, or where appropriate, the Committee may refer the matter to arbitration or other appropriate body.

Amended 20 June 2009